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25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] Met with Representative Vernon W. Thompson (R., Wis.) at Al Westphal's, Staff Consultant, House Foreign Affairs Committee, suggestion and briefed him on the ramifications of the Muskie amendment and he agreed the results would be adverse to the nation's interest. I reviewed with him a number of the arguments that could be made on the floor without involving the Agency and he felt they would be effective and in line with his thinking. I also gave him a copy of the language which would modify the amendment and assure the flexibility that exists under the current 1969 Presidential letter and a copy of Deputy Secretary William P. Clements', DOD, letter to Chairman Thomas E. Morgan on this subject. In response to his query, I told him that I could not be sure what prompted the Muskie amendment but to the extent that it may be aimed at the Agency it was unneeded, especially following the Presidential letter of 1961, clearly establishing the ambassador in his leadership role over the various agencies in the country of his assignment. I admitted to the possibility that in any specific country there may be conflicts of personality or differing capabilities, but this certainly would be the rare exception and not the rule, although 20 years ago or so there may well have been grounds for complaints over lack of effective coordination involving activities abroad.

In response to his question, explained I was not sure of the precise attitude of Chairman Morgan or Representative Hays (D., Ohio) to the matter but thought it would be supportive of our position and we had been in touch with Representative Hays' office to advise that we were providing necessary material for Representative Hays to Westphal. Representative Thompson was grateful of the alert on this problem before the debate on the State Authorization bill which is scheduled tomorrow afternoon.

25X1 9. [redacted] In response to her request on behalf of Jim Calloway, Chief Counsel and Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee, advised Pat Lord, of Calloway's staff, that Chairman John L. McClellan's (D., Ark.) rebuttal of the Proxmire amendment to the HUD Appropriation bill starts on page S. 14334 of the Congressional Record of 5 August.

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